Appl. No.: 10/709,196

Amend & Resp dated: 10/23/2007

Reply to Final office action dated: 8/13/2007

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Allowance of Claims 14, 19, and 20.

Applicants further acknowledge that claims 9-13 and 24 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but have been deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 1 has been re-written to include the limitations of claim 9 and intermediate claims 5 and 8 and is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 10, 11, and 13, previously dependent from claim 9, have been amended to depend from claim 1 as rewritten. Claim 12 remains dependent on claim 11. Claims 2-4, 6-8, 15-18, and 37-39 depend on claim 1 and should be allowed with their parent claim.

Claim 24 has been amended to include the limitations of previously presented claim 1, from which it depended, and is believed, therefore, to be in condition for allowance. Claims 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 have been amended to depend from claim 24 and should be allowed with their parent claim.

Claims 5, 8, and 9 have been cancelled in view of the incorporation of these limitations into claim 1 as currently amended. Claims 21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 35, and 36 have also been cancelled.

It is believed that these amendments place the claims in condition for allowance and favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. If any matters of form remain to be resolved, the undersigned attorney asks that the examiner call him.

It is believe no fee is due in connection with the filing of this reply. If we are mistaken, please charge deposit account number 032316.

Dated

23, 2007

John R. Merkling (Reg. No. 31,716)

Respectfully submitted

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